Message

From: McNally, Robert [Mcnally.Robert@epa.gov]
Sent: 4/22/2020 8:20:23 PM
To: Overbey, Dian [Overbey.Dian@epa.gov]
CC: Overstreet, Anne [overstreet.anne@epa.gov]; Mendelsohn, Mike [Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov]; Bohnenblust, Eric [Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Can I see the current OPP Update for Oxitec?

Rick may be rethinking this and go with a desk statement. We will know in a few days.

We may not want something that is proactive.

We will likely make the decision April 28- may 1.

From: Overbey, Dian <Overbey.Dian@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 10:15 AM
To: McNally, Robert <Mcnally.Robert@epa.gov>
Cc: Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>; Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Can I see the current OPP Update for Oxitec?

Hi Bob,

I had included it as part of the email because I know you use your phone. It's at the bottom of the previous email, but here it is again.

EPA Grants Request for Experimental Permit to Combat Mosquitoes

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has granted an experimental use permit to Oxitec Ltd. that would allow the release of genetically engineered mosquitoes over an area of up to 6,600 acres in Harris County, Texas, and Monroe County, Florida, over a period of 24 months. The purpose of the EUP is to test the effectiveness of a specific genetic modification in mosquito control.

EPA issues experimental use permits when field testing is required as part of the registration process. This EUP could support a subsequent application for broader use in the United States. *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes can spread several diseases of significant human health concern, including the Zika virus and dengue fever; and successfully reducing their populations could have beneficial, long-term effects in reducing the incidence of these mosquito-borne diseases.

Oxitec proposed releasing male genetically modified male mosquitoes into the environment to mate with wild female mosquitoes. The males released would be genetically modified in such a way that their female offspring die as larvae while male offspring survive to com fully functional adults with the same modifications. Since male mosquitoes do not bite people, there would be no transmission of the genetic modification to people, which could provide multi-generational effectiveness so that, ultimately, *Aedes aegypti* mosquito populations in the release areas decline. It is also anticipated that there will be no adverse effects to other nontarget species.

Oxitec Ltd. Must now seek approval of the EUP from Florida and Texas.
To read EPA's decision, go to: [Insert link]

From: McNally, Robert <Mcnally.Robert@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 9:50 AM
To: Overbey, Dian <Overbey.Dian@epa.gov>
Cc: Overstreet, Anne <overstreet.anne@epa.gov>; Mendelsohn, Mike <Mendelsohn.Mike@epa.gov>; Bohnenblust, Eric <Bohnenblust.Eric@epa.gov>
Subject: Can I see the current OPP Update for Oxitec?